

# Fact Sheet 5

## Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for New Solid Waste Intermodal Transfer Facility

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has issued the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for the Solid Waste Intermodal Transfer Facility and invites you to review and comment on it through March 21, 2005. The environmental review focuses on building a new solid waste intermodal facility, a key element of the Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan, at one of four alternative locations. A new intermodal facility will allow waste to be transferred directly from collection trucks into shipping containers for transport by train or other modes of transportation to a disposal facility. This would provide the city with a dedicated facility for solid waste transfer, improving the reliability and efficiency of waste transfer and reducing environmental impacts as well as transportation costs. The DSEIS analyzes the potential adverse environmental impacts of the project and identifies measures to address how significant impacts may be addressed.

SPU developed the Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan to address long-term facility needs for managing Seattle's solid waste. Key goals were to reduce environmental impacts and costs as well as improve reuse and recycling opportunities and increase solid waste system efficiency.

### RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL STATIONS

In addition to building a new intermodal facility, the Master Plan recommended rebuilding the South and North Recycling and Disposal Stations, using additional property adjacent to each site. The improvements would solve many of the existing problems at these facilities, and increase customer services for the public. The environmental review of the stations will be completed closer to the time of implementation in 2006 or 2007. Comments already received about the stations will be considered at that time.

## Description of Alternatives

The DSEIS addresses a no-action alternative and four alternative sites for an intermodal facility as follows:

### Alternative 1 (No Action)

No development of a new intermodal sites.

### Alternative 2 (Harbor Island Terminal 10)

Development of a new intermodal site on the southwest portion of Harbor Island, west of 16th Avenue SW.

### Alternative 3 (Harbor Island Terminal 10/Pendleton)

Development of an intermodal site on the southwest portion of Harbor Island, west of 16th Avenue SW and adjoining Pendleton parcel in conjunction with King County.

### Alternative 4 (Corgiat Drive)

Development of an intermodal site between South Corgiat Drive and Airport Way South, northeast of the north end of King County International Airport (Boeing Field).

### Alternative 5 (Edmunds Street)

Development of an intermodal site on the southwest quadrant of the South Edmunds Street/Airport Way South intersection, approximately 1 mile south of the Spokane Street/Interstate 5 interchange.



# Study Conclusions

The DSEIS analyzed transportation, noise, air quality and odor, land and shoreline use, aesthetics and visual quality, plants and animals, earth, water, and hazardous materials. Based on the analysis, no one alternative stands out as preferred. Although differences in impacts occur among the four, no significant, unavoidable adverse impacts would result from any of the action alternatives.

## Concerns about Traffic

In general, the DSEIS has determined that the proposed facility would not adversely affect traffic conditions. Detailed traffic studies were performed for this SEIS, including traffic counts at key intersections near the alternative sites to better understand current traffic conditions. Projections of future traffic generated by this project were added to existing and future traffic estimates to determine their effect on the roadway level of service. The study results found that the level of service was the same, with or without this project, at all of the alternative sites. Moreover, anticipated detours associated with major construction projects such as the Alaskan Way Viaduct would likely affect truck traffic arriving from North Seattle regardless of whether the new intermodal facility is constructed. Detailed information about the traffic analysis is provided in Chapter 3 of the DSEIS.

## How and When to Comment

Comments may be submitted anytime through March 21, 2005. Comments that focus on the analysis (assumptions, data collecting methods, and conclusions) are most useful. We are especially interested in any local knowledge, problem areas, or other considerations. Send comments to:

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Attn: Henry Friedman  
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4900  
PO Box 34018  
Seattle WA 98124-4018  
Email: [swfmp.spu@seattle.gov](mailto:swfmp.spu@seattle.gov)

## What Happens Next?

SPU will review all the comments it receives on the DSEIS and make changes, if necessary. The Final SEIS will include a response to the comments made at the public hearings on March 1-3, together with written comments submitted. After issuing the Final SEIS, SPU will select the intermodal site after evaluating additional factors, such as operational and maintenance costs, property costs, access issues, and other factors. Once a site is selected, design and permit applications will begin. Environmental review for the proposed changes to the Recycling and Disposal Stations will occur in future years.

For Additional Information about this project, including previous fact sheets and planning documents, please visit the SPU website at [http://www.seattle.gov/util/About\\_SPU/index.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/util/About_SPU/index.asp), or email [swfmp.spu@seattle.gov](mailto:swfmp.spu@seattle.gov) or call (206) 733-9147.

## Getting Copies of the DSEIS

Copies of the DSEIS document are available for your review at the following locations:

- The project website at [www.seattle.gov/util/About\\_SPU](http://www.seattle.gov/util/About_SPU)
- Seattle Public Library: Central (Downtown), Wallingford, and West Seattle  
Neighborhood Service Centers: Delridge, Fremont, Greater Duwamish, and West Seattle

Copies of the DSEIS are available for \$20 printed or \$5 CD from the DPD Public Resource Center, located on the 20th floor of the Seattle Municipal Tower at 700 Fifth Avenue, (206) 684-8467.

## Project Timeline

### Environmental Review

Scoping begins	July 2004
Public Meetings	Aug/Oct 2004
DSEIS for Intermodal Facility issued	Feb 17, 2005

Public Hearings	March 2005
Final SEIS	Summer 2005
Site Selection	Fall 2005
SEPA Review of SRDS	2006 or 2007
SEPA Review of NRDS	2007 or 2008

### Design and Construction of Intermodal

Start of Design Process	Summer 2006
Construction	2008
Intermodal Operational	2009